

# The P2ALERT

Tennessee Business Assistance and Compliance Program

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## **Portion Pac Inc. Achieves Partner Level in the Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Program**

Division of H.J. Heinz Company Demonstrates Commitment to Environment

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is happy to announce that Portion Pac Inc., a division of H.J. Heinz Company L.P., has achieved Partner level status in the Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership (TP3) environmental program.

In March of 2005, Portion Pac was honored in a recognition ceremony and presented with a certificate during the Pollution Prevention Roundtable meeting held in Kingsport, Tennessee, in conjunction with the Fourth Annual East Tennessee Environmental Conference.

"TP3 is an excellent example of what can be achieved when people and organizations work together to proactively protect the environment," said Karen Stachowski, Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Environment. "This translates into using fewer natural resources, requiring less cleanup and waste disposal, reducing the amount of enforcement action the department must take and resulting in a

stronger bottom line for participating businesses. We are very pleased to have Portion Pac Nashville as an active partner in the TP3 program."

To achieve Partner status, Portion Pac was required to develop a five-project plan to help prevent pollution of air, land, and water, while reducing waste and conserving natural resources. The company gained Partner status upon the completion of one project and a success story detailing its significant hazardous waste reductions and subsequent cost savings. The company has set its sites on attaining Performer level, the program's highest, by 2006 with the completion of all five projects and success stories.

"We view environmental excellence as an endless journey and not just a destination," said Scott Krall, manager of environmental engineering for Heinz North America. "Caring for the environment is an ongoing commitment that we share with TP3 partners across the state of Tennessee. We recognize the relationship of our food processing operations to the environment and we aim to be efficient in the use of energy, raw materials, water, and packaging."



The Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership is a statewide network of households, schools, government agencies, organizations, businesses and industries working together to prevent pollution. The Tennessee Pollution Prevention Roundtable, with assistance from the Department of Environment and Conservation, developed the guidelines for the industry portion of TP3.



## **BUSINESS ASSISTANCE AND COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**

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## Take a Part to Keep Tennessee Beautiful

During the months of March through May, Tennesseans have an opportunity to beautify their city streets, state parks, and local neighborhoods for the Great American Cleanup™, the nations largest community improvement program. This can be your opportunity to join with thousands of other Tennesseans and make a difference in your community. Events are sponsored by local Keep Tennessee Beautiful affiliates and local civic organizations in almost every county of the State and range from litter pickups, to graffiti removal, to tree and flower plantings, to clothing drives. Last year in Tennessee, over 170,000 volunteers from 94 counties donated 465,000 hours of their time to do just that. Tennesseans collected 4,200 tons of litter, recycled 753 tons of material, collected 8,760 tires, and planted 32,000 trees and 271,000 flowers.

In 2004, the Department of Environment and Conservation held its fourth annual state employee clothing drive to support the Tennessee Great American Cleanup. State employees from offices in the downtown Nashville area donated over 6,000 pounds of clothes to charity for reuse. Tennessee Great American volunteers also assist Tennessee State Parks with shoreline cleanups, beautification projects, and flower plantings.

This year, make the commitment to volunteer a few hours of your time for the 2005 Tennessee Great American Cleanup. It will be time very well spent! For more information on the statewide 2005 Tennessee Great American Cleanup, please contact Edith Heller at 1-888-862-5326 or the Keep Tennessee Beautiful website at [www.ktnb.org/](http://www.ktnb.org/).



### TP3 Membership Status

The Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership (TP3) currently has **425** members. **116** members have advanced to the Pledge membership level and are implementing fundamental pollution prevention measures. The following TP3 members have become Pledges since the last issue of the P2Alert:

#### Business

Cook's Curbside Recycling  
Natural Resources Recovery, LLC  
NSF International Strategic Registrations, Ltd.

#### Government Agency

Hallsdale Powell Utility District  
Montgomery Bell State Park

#### Household

Hannah Household  
Pieczura Household

#### Industry

Calsonic Kansei  
JM Huber - Etowah  
Leggett & Platt, Inc., Nagle Industries  
Mahle Tennex Murfreesboro

M-TEK, Inc.  
SW Manufacturing Inc  
TRW Vehicle Safety Systems, Inc.  
Volvo Penta Marine Products, L.C.

#### Organization

Sequatchie Valley Institute

#### School

Big Ridge Elementary  
Cedar Bluff Primary School  
Cumberland County High School  
East Middle School  
Graceland Elementary School  
Houston High FFA  
Huntingdon Primary School-Wiser Miser Energy Team  
Mountain View Elementary School Science Club  
Pleasant View School  
Rutledge High School  
Sweetwater Jr. High School  
Tennessee Ridge Elementary School  
University of Tennessee-Knoxville  
West Elementary School

### TP3 Recognizes Our Performers and Partners

An asterisk indicates TP3 members that have become Partners or Performers since 1/1/04.

#### Industry Performers

\* Delta Faucet Company of Tennessee  
DENSO Manufacturing Athens TN, Inc.  
DENSO Manufacturing TN, Inc.  
Saturn Corporation

#### School Performer

\* Centennial High School

#### Industry Partners

\* Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC-Warren Plant  
Exedy America Corporation  
\* Frito-Lay Inc. -- Fayetteville  
Goodrich Landing Gear Division  
Lodge Manufacturing  
\* MAHLE, INC.  
Marvin Windows and Doors of Tennessee  
MINCO, Inc.  
Portion Pac  
S E International, Inc  
\* Standard Aero Alliance, Inc.  
\* Tennessee Koyo Steering Systems Co.  
\* TPI Corporation

#### School Partners

Alpha Elementary School  
Andrew Johnson Elementary School  
\* Croft Middle School  
\* Fairview Middle School Recycling Team  
Flintville Elementary School  
\* McDonald Elementary School - TSAP Club

**E-mail TP3 at [Pollution.prevention@state.tn.us](mailto:Pollution.prevention@state.tn.us). Our toll free number is 1-800-734-3619. Visit our website at [www.tdec.net/bac/tp3](http://www.tdec.net/bac/tp3)**



## TP3 NEWS

Congratulations to Tennessee's six Performance Track members:

(Charter PT member and TP3 Partner)  
Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC-Warren County  
725 Bridgestone Drive  
Morrison, TN 37357

(newly accepted PT member)  
Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC - LaVergne  
1201 Bridgestone Parkway  
LaVergne, TN 37086

(TP3 Performer)  
Delta Faucet Company of Tennessee  
3441 Ridgecrest Road Extended  
Jackson, TN 38305

(TP3 Pledge)  
Dura Automotive Systems  
114 Spicer Drive  
Gordonsville, TN 38563

(newly accepted PT member)  
Sharp Manufacturing Company of America  
4050 South Mendenhall  
Memphis, TN 38115

TVA, Ocoee Hydro Plant Group  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

The EPA created the voluntary National Environmental Performance Track program to reward and recognize companies that show a commitment to environmental performance that goes above and beyond current requirements and that have a proven track record of improving environmental performance over time.



## Croft Middle School Becomes TP3 Green School Partner

Croft Middle School is actively emerging as an exemplary TP3 Green School this year. They are fortunate to have a unique relationship with the Nashville Zoo. A zoo staff member, Ms. Julie Berbiglia, initiates programs to help students gain a real-world understanding of their responsibilities in making the earth a better place for all creatures. Croft students are finding ways to make positive environmental changes within their school and accomplishing Green School objectives at the same time.

Ms. Berbiglia has taken a unique approach that will serve as a model for other schools to integrate the Green Schools program into their curriculum. Each grade in the 5 - 8 school is responsible for one of the five projects making up their TP3 Plan. Importantly, each project meets one of the Metro science standards for their grade level.

Fifth and seventh graders completed a cafeteria waste audit, graphed their results, and set up a lunch composting program run by the 5th grade Junior Master Composters. Even milk cartons and paper napkins have been successfully integrated. Seventh graders coordinate the school-wide paper-recycling program. Every classroom has a bin for one-sided paper to promote paper re-use prior to recycling. Cafeteria workers recycle steel and aluminum cans and cardboard boxes. This successful Waste Reduction project brought Croft Middle School to Partner level in the TP3 Green Schools program in March 2005.

Four other conservation areas are addressed in Croft's TP3 Plan. As part of their Energy unit, sixth graders conducted a lighting, heating, and cooling energy audit of the building; made recommendations for conserving energy; and calculated savings projections. The "Environmental Minute" school TV program educates the school about energy conservation. To decrease hazardous materials and waste at the school, non-toxic cleaners have been adopted, and a battery recharger is in use for the digital cameras. Bluebird houses, feeders, birdbaths, and native plant landscaping with school-generated compost are all part of the Land and Water Conservation project. In May, Croft will organize a school-wide car pool day as a Clean Air project. Eighth graders will study indoor air quality with EPA's Tools for Schools.

The TP3 Green Schools Program coordinator, Cynthia Rohrbach, sees the

accomplishments of Croft Middle School as a win-win for all involved. Pollution prevention and natural resource conservation are coordinated with the Metro Schools math, science, social studies, and writing standards; the Green Schools Program is integrated with middle school curriculum in a project-oriented way; and most importantly, everyone at Croft improves their environmental awareness and stewardship while having fun!





### What?

EnviroFlash is a new pilot program, sponsored by the EPA with State and local air quality agencies. EnviroFlash provides important air quality information such as forecasts and action day notifications via email or pager notification. The email includes the same local, air quality forecast information which is coordinated through the news media, like television and radio.

### Why?

Your local air quality affects how you live and breathe. Like the weather, it can change from day to day, or even hour to hour. Up-to-date information allows you to make decisions based on forecasted air quality. EnviroFlash comes to you, notifying you about air quality- you don't have to go searching for it.

### What's in it for you?

EnviroFlash gives you instant information that you can customize for your own needs, allowing you to protect the health of you and your family. Air quality information allows you to adjust your lifestyle when necessary on unhealthy air quality days. EnviroFlash is especially helpful for people with sensitivities, such as the young, people with asthma, and the elderly.

### How?

An on-line subscription page allows users to sign up, edit the reported information, or cancel the service. Once you choose the type and frequency of service that you would like, EnviroFlash will be sent to your email or pager as specified.

### Who and when?

The pilot includes the cities of Cincinnati, Detroit, Nashville, Oklahoma City and Greensboro/High Point/Winston-Salem and began in October, 2004. Further expansion and rollout of a larger national program is tentatively scheduled for May 2005. EnviroFlash may also be expanded to include actual real-time air quality conditions for your area, so you can be notified when levels reach a specified AQI category.



Individuals in the Middle Tennessee area can receive air quality forecasts by email or text messages on cell phones or pagers. These air quality forecast emails are issued at 3 p.m. for the next two days, or three or more days for weekends and holidays. The forecasts are provided for two pollutants:.

To sign up for the forecast emails, you can go to the Clean Air Partnership of Middle TN website <http://www.cleanairpartnership.info/>. Middle TN forecast information, as well as the monitored air quality index and pollen counts for Davidson County, are also available on the Metro Public Health Department's Air Quality pages, or by calling the Pollution Control Division's Air Quality Information Line at (615) 340-0488.



## Landscaping, Gardening and Pest Control Impacts on Water Quality

Did you know that landscaping, gardening, and pest control activities can be major contributors to storm water pollution? Sediment, yard wastes, over-watering, pet wastes, and garden chemicals mixed with storm water can pollute our streams and rivers.

When it rains fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides are washed off of lawns and landscaped areas and enter our waterways. These chemicals not only kill garden pests, they also harm useful insects, poison fish, and contaminate ground and surface waters. Leaves, grass clippings, and tree trimmings that are swept or blown into the streets and gutters also cause storm water pollution. These wastes clog catch basins, causing flooding of roads and streets. Leaves and grass clippings that are washed into the river start to decompose and absorb dissolved oxygen from water. If oxygen levels in the water become too low, aquatic animals die.

Now that spring is underway, take care to ensure that your gardening activities are more environmental friendly by using the following suggestions.

### Garden and Lawn Maintenance Tips

Do not over water lawns. Conserve water by using irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaked hoses, or micro-spray systems.

For cities that have curbside pickup, leave clipping and pruning wastes besides the street for pickup. Or, compost clippings at home and use compost around plants.

Do not blow or rake leaves into streets, gutters or storm drains.

Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.

Do not over fertilize and do not fertilize near ditches, streams, or other bodies of water.

Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff.

### Home and Garden Safe Substitute Pest Controls

**Garden Aphids and Mites-** Mix one (1) tablespoon of liquid soap and one (1) cup of vegetable oil. Add one (1) teaspoon of the mixture to a cup of water and spray. Note: oil may harm vegetable plants in the cabbage family.

**Caterpillars-** When caterpillars are eating, apply products containing Bacillus Thuringiensis to leaves.



**Ants-** Place boric acid dust or hydramethylnon baits in problem areas, cracks, and insect walkways. Be sure it is inaccessible to children and pets (boric acid is a mild poison).  
**Roaches-** Apply boric acid dust to cracks and entry points.

**And If You must Use Pesticides...**

Read labels and use them only as directed. Often to control the problem, many gardeners use more pesticide than is suggested...more is NOT better!  
Use a pesticide that is specifically designed to control your pest. The insect should be listed on the label.  
And remember, approximately 90% of the insects on your lawn and garden are not harmful!

**Pesticides Disposal**

Household toxins, such as pesticides, can pollute our streams and rivers and contaminate groundwater if disposed of in storm drains or gutters. Therefore, BE SURE and dispose of unused and out-dated pesticides properly.  
Rinse empty pesticide containers and use rinse water as you would the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.

To obtain information for proper disposal of unused or out-dated pesticides call the Business Assistance and Compliance Program at 1-800-734-3619 or contact the Household Hazardous Waste web site [www.tdec.net/swm/hhw](http://www.tdec.net/swm/hhw)



## GreenBriefs

- The Used Oil Recycling Program and Tennessee State Parks are again partnering with nine Tennessee minor league baseball teams this season to promote the proper disposal of used motor oil and recreational/conservation opportunities at State Parks. Over 700,000 activity booklets designed by the Department of Environment and Conservation will be distributed to students across Tennessee. The booklets focus on trails and greenways, conservation, and environmental practices. For more information about this used oil campaign contact Paula Smith at 615-532-9265 or by email at [paula.a.smith@state.tn.us](mailto:paula.a.smith@state.tn.us). To learn more about Tennessee State Parks call 1-888-867-2757 or [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com).



## Calendar of Events

- The 2005 Spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule is now available online at [www.tdec.net/swm/hhw](http://www.tdec.net/swm/hhw). Events started on March 5th.



Celebrate Earth Day in April. For information on statewide and local happenings, please visit <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/earthday/> for more information.

- Join us for the Fifth Annual TDEC Clothing Drive in celebration of the 2005 Tennessee Great American Cleanup. Collection dates are May 11-12 and May 18-19 at the Bicentennial Mall, James Robertson Parkway in Nashville, Tennessee. Please contact Lori Munkeboe at [lori.munkeboe@state.tn.us](mailto:lori.munkeboe@state.tn.us) or 615-532-0705 for more information.
- Make your plans to attend the South's annual premiere environmental event--the 34th Annual Solid/Hazardous Waste Conference Exhibition May 18-20, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. For more information check out the website at <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/swm/conference/>.
- The Tennessee Pollution Prevention Roundtable is scheduled to meet on June 9 (TP3 Review Panel Meeting), September 8, and December 10. Please contact [Pollution.prevention@state.tn.us](mailto:Pollution.prevention@state.tn.us) for more information.



For more information about the P2 Alert contact Lori Munkeboe at 615-532-0705 or by email at [lori.munkeboe@state.tn.us](mailto:lori.munkeboe@state.tn.us).

